

Dartmouth High School Winter Percussion Ensemble for taking first place honors in the Winterguard International World Championships. The thirty-four member group, performing a routine with a "Batman" theme, scored a 98.7, topping one hundred and fifty other bands.

The Dartmouth High School Winter Percussion Ensemble is under the direction of Thomas Aungst, who is ably assisted by Darcy Aungst and Jaime Ecker. The ensemble endured a seventeen hour bus trip to Dayton, Ohio to bring home the World Championship. It is the first time in the history of the competition that a first time entrant has won the championship.

The Dartmouth High School Winter Percussion Ensemble's significant achievement has bestowed a great sense of pride and community spirit to the residents of Dartmouth, as well as the entire citizenry of Massachusetts. They are to be congratulated.

REMARKS BY FORMER SECRETARY OF STATE JAMES BAKER ON U.S. POLICY TOWARD IRAN

HON. LEE H. HAMILTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 7, 1998

Mr. HAMILTON. Mr. Speaker, the distinguished former Secretary of State, James A. Baker III, delivered a speech on America's interest in the Middle East at a May 4, 1998, symposium in Washington sponsored by the magazine, Middle East Insight. He made many important observation about the Middle East peace process, and about U.S. policy in the Gulf. I commend him for his remarks.

I would like to bring the attention of my colleagues an excerpt of his speech, concerning U.S. policy toward Iran:

... Let me turn briefly to Iran. This is a country that I think most everyone who looks at it objectively would have to agree is in transition. And I think there are a number of events over the past year or so that have underscored that fact. The first, of course, and most startling was the election of a moderate or semi-moderate, President Khatami, as president last May. The second was his televised overture to the people of the United States, which we saw in January of this year. And the third and most recent was the release from arrest last month of Teheran's mayor, who had been taken prisoner by the hard-liners. And I think this is really a significant development, because it has been widely interpreted—and, I think, correctly—as a victory for Khatami and his colleagues.

So what I think we may be seeing in Iran is the beginning of a evolution toward a truly post-revolutionary Iran. I think the days of the—the heydays of the revolution are over, and I think Iran is beginning to move in a different direction. I think we're going to begin to see an Iran that is less stridently extreme, and I think we're going to begin to see one that is more open to the outside world. So the question arises: What, then, should the United States of America be doing?

First of all, I think we should be prepared to meet official Iranian representatives anywhere, anytime, to begin the formal dialogue.

Secondly, I think we ought to encourage ongoing to people-to-people contact between

the two countries, such as the recent visit of a U.S. wrestling team here not long ago.

And thirdly, I think we should consider easing sanctions when and if it becomes clear that Teheran will publicly condemn state-sponsored terrorism and when it becomes clear that she is actually reducing her support for terrorist groups and her efforts to acquire weapons of mass destruction. That last point, I think, is a particularly vital one, because for us to get there and, actually, for Iran to improve its relations with the United States is going to take actions and not words. We're going to have to see the rhetoric and the reality match; the reality is going to have to match the rhetoric.

And without real, verifiable action on the part of the Iranians, I don't foresee any real thaw in U.S.-Iranian relations. As we contemplate, through, the prospect of such a thaw—and I think is a good prospect that it can occur if the requisite actions take place—as we contemplate such a thaw, I think we ought to remember two very important points. First is that any process is going to be a protracted process, very likely one of years and not months in duration.

And secondly, an opening to Teheran even if it's successful, is not going to be any substitute for an ongoing, energetic American-led effort to contain the efforts of Iraq to develop biological weapons. Horrific weapons of mass destruction. In other words, I think we ought to avoid the false promise that somehow an improved Washington-Teheran relationship is an ace in the hole when it comes to the question of containing the weapons of mass destruction goals of Iraq. . . .

NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER

HON. WILLIAM O. LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 7, 1998

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the National Day of Prayer, which takes place this year on Thursday, May 7th. This unique annual observance offers an opportunity for all Americans to join together in prayer.

The National Day of Prayer has been celebrated annually ever since its introduction in 1952 by Congress. In 1988, the National Day of Prayer was set on the first Thursday of each May. For over 45 years, the National Day of Prayer has been an occasion for countless Americans to give thanks for their blessings and ask for God's assistance.

The theme of this year's National Day of Prayer is "America, Return to God." It is a theme that is undoubtedly shared by Americans of all faiths. One of the most important values promoted by the National Day of Prayer is unity among people of different faiths. Americans of all faiths are encouraged to take time during the day to offer their prayers before God.

The National Day of Prayer is a time to thank God for the many gifts and blessings that have been bestowed upon us, individually and as a nation. It is also a time to ask for stability and wisdom, and for God's guidance today so that we may restore moral values in our communities.

My fellow colleagues, I urge you to join me and Americans from every state in praying for America, its leaders, and its people on the National Day of Prayer.

SPECIAL TRIBUTE HONORING
HOLLY SPRUNGER, LEGRAND
SMITH SCHOLARSHIP WINNER

HON. NICK SMITH

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 7, 1998

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, it is with great respect for the outstanding record of excellence she has compiled in academics, leadership and community service, that I am proud to salute Holly Sprunger, winner of the 1998 LeGrand Smith Scholarship. This award is made to young adults who have demonstrated that they are truly committed to playing important roles in our Nation's future.

As a winner of the LeGrand Smith Scholarship, Holly is being honored for demonstrating that same generosity of spirit, intelligence, responsible citizenship, and capacity for human service that distinguished the late LeGrand Smith of Somerset, Michigan.

Holly is an exceptional student at Lenawee Christian High School and possesses an impressive high school record. Holly is the President of the National Honor Society and is Co-Valedictorian of her senior class. Holly is also involved with varsity basketball, volleyball and softball. Outside of school, Holly is involved with various community activities.

In special tribute, Therefore, I am proud to join with her many admirers in extending my highest praise and congratulations to Holly Sprunger for her selection as a winner of a LeGrand Smith Scholarship. This honor is also a testament to the parents, teachers, and others whose personal interest, strong support and active participation contributed to her success. To this remarkable young woman, I extend my most heartfelt good wishes for all her future endeavors.

HONORING GEORGE KING RADANOVICH

HON. ROBERT L. EHRLICH, JR.

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 7, 1998

Mr. EHRLICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise to inform you and the members of this body of an important and exciting event that happened today. At 3:15 a.m. here in Washington, D.C. George King Radanovich entered the world.

George King is the son and first child of my friend and colleague, Representative GEORGE RADANOVICH and his wife Ethie. Named after his grandfather, George King is twenty two and one quarter inches long and weighs in at eight pounds, two ounces.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to express my most hearty congratulations to George and Ethie on the birth of their son. The joys of parenthood and the awesome responsibility involved in bringing up children can only be truly understood by parents. I'm happy that George and Ethie now have the chance to fully understand the unique importance of families in our society.

I also want to honor George King. He enters the world in an exciting time. Change is all around us. We can only guess at what advances, what progress he will see in his lifetime. As we change and as we progress we